

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/046,131 Confirmation No.: 9228  
Applicant : Francisco M. Galanes  
Filed : October 21, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 2626  
Examiner : Lerner, Martin  
  
Docket No. : 188880.01  
Customer No. : 69316

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 12, 2009, with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 12, 2010, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a 3-month extension of the period for responding to the Office action, thereby moving the deadline for response from February 12, 2010 to May 12, 2010.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.